

FALLS CAPTIVE TO
THE SILENT DRAMA

Genevieve Hamper.

Genevieve Hamper, who in private life is the wife of Robert Mantell, and who has won an enviable reputation as a delineator of Shakespearian roles, has capitulated to the lure of the movies. Mrs. Mantell lives with her husband and three-year-old son Bruce at Atlantic Highlands.

MAIL PILED UP
AT VERA CRUZ

Accumulations of Eight Months Has Just Reached Mexico City, Where News of Outside World Eagerly Read by Colony

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] MEXICO CITY, Aug. 13.—Eight months of accumulated mail has just been distributed to foreigners and others. Beside this mail a batch of some eighteen hundred telegrams will also reach their owners. These letters have been piling up in Vera Cruz for the past month since it was necessary for the military to use the only available telegraphic lines to the prejudices of the general public while the siege of the capital was being carried on.

It is not the want of food of a material kind that the foreigner feels so keenly here but the want of that intellectual nourishment which comes from the news centers of the world in the shape of press dispatches and in the editorial comment and magazine articles on the same.

Fathers bearing a date a month old have been eagerly read here during the past few weeks. With the large English, French, German, American and Spanish colonies here the dearth of European war news, works a real hardship.

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PROPER LIMIT
OF TAX RATE

Ohio Commissioner Tells Conference Amount to Be Expended, Not the Rate, is the Place to Put on the Brakes

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 13.—The proper limitation for taxation is one which affects not the tax rate, but the amount of money to be expended, said A. B. Peckinbaugh, member of the Ohio state tax commission, in an address before the National Tax Conference here today.

The speaker discussed the movement in Ohio during recent years where a tax limit law was passed in 1910 which attempted to prevent increasing the tax rate over the previous years. The first year of its operation showed that while valuations increased 149 per cent, the average tax rate decreased 163 per cent. The signal mistake of the law, he said, was in attempting to limit the rate rather than the amount of money to be raised. The speaker cited instances where the law had no deterrent effect on expenses while many growing communities were actually seriously injured through inability to secure absolutely necessary funds. In other words, a rate limit law served of no real benefit unless some provision were made for those localities with impoverished tax lists and also for progressive growing communities which justly need increased levies. The proper limitation was one which affects not the tax rate but the amount of money to be expended and provided that this should not exceed the amount in the previous year plus some fixed per cent except in emergencies. The question of emergency, he concluded, should be submitted to some local board whose power also to grant increases should be limited above which the vote of the people should be necessary.

BELGIAN ARMY NOW
CLOTHED IN KHAKI

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] DUNKIRK, France, Aug. 13.—The Belgian army is now clothed in khaki instead of the dark colored and conspicuous uniform of the earlier months of the war. It has been a popular change, since the khaki of the British soldier has been much admired by the Belgians as both smarter in a military sense and more business-like than their own dark blue and green.

The sanitary situation along the Belgian front is excellent, and the sick report is exceedingly small. The bodies of dead horses and men floating in the area covered by water have been fished out and destroyed, and the country in general cleaned up back of the lines.

Belgian officers have established little chicken yards back of the trenches for fresh eggs, and angling for carp in the canals is one of the chief recreations of officers and men when off duty.

GERMAN LITERATURE
SENT TO AUSTRALIA

[ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH] MELBOURNE, Australia, Aug. 13.—The minister for defense, Senator Pearce, declares that the commonwealth authorities have reason to believe that a German organization is very active in the United States in despatching leaflets to Australia. On several occasions the leaflets have been discovered as packing for goods. The defense department and the customs and postoffice departments are trying as far as possible to check the propaganda.

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THE SEA CHANTY IS
BECOMING A MEMORY

A chanty is—no, was—a merchant seaman's song, and the chanty man was its leader—the acknowledged forefinger, forehead of the working crew. Black and blue from the "Shanghai" Brown's boarding house—or "Patch Eye" Currier, or Katie Wilson's, split-lipped, broken nose, ear slit, scarp torn, cheated and shorn by cozen and crimp; sick of soul and body; his chief earthly possessions a pot, pan, and spoon, and a pair of heels, his modest, his modest, belonging to the stocking of his latest charmer knotted round his neck—and still he could sing! Blessed was the ship that could boast one good man of his tribe. Thrice blessed she that could boast one in each watch.

For without his chanty the seaman could not have worked the under-manned and underfed, and often sty-fel vessels in which he went up and down the world; he could not have set sail to favoring breeze or furl it from destroying gale. There is nothing like a song to lift any kind of work along; and a chanty was then—and still is, on the few square rigged wanderers left on the seas—as good as ten men on a rope's end, captain bar, or windlass brake. The chanty was peculiarly an institution of the merchant marine. In the days of the crews of the ships in the navy of sail were—as they are today—so large that a work song was seldom necessary, and therefore seldom heard. I know of only one true navy chanty or chorus.

Somewhere on the salt seas today one of the last chanty men is lifting his voice in "Whisky, Johnny!" or "The Maid of Amsterdam," or "The Maid of Amsterdam." The reign sang the same words and same tunes, "Whisky, Johnny!" may be found among songs of the Sixteenth Century in the Percy Reliques. It probably was a street ballad. "The Maid of Amsterdam" is a solo from Thomas Heywood's "The Rape of Lucrece," which went on the boards about 1630.

The British and American merchantmen were the only chanty singers. I have heard the French sailor, the Italian, the Norwegian, the German sing at work, but they sang songs, not chanties.

Strictly speaking, there were four kinds of chanties: capstan, windlass or anchor, to get under way,

A CRITICISM OF DEMOCRACY

H. G. Wells Says War Proves Superiority of "Central Powers."

The war shows the weakness of the democratic states, says H. G. Wells, in the New Republic. "It is no use denying that the central powers were not only better prepared for this war at the outset, but that on the whole they have met the occasions of the war as they have so far arisen with much more collective intelligence, will power and energy than any of the Allies, not even excepting France."

"They have succeeded not merely in meeting enormous military requirements better, but in keeping the material side of their national life steadier under greater stress. It is idle for this writer to pretend to think that the United States would make any better showing in this matter than Great Britain."

"The British government has been excellent in argument and admirable in rhetoric, but it has been slack, indolent and unready in all matters of material organization; it has muddled and wasted national feeling, and it has been manifestly afraid of the press and over-sensitive to public clamor. It has shown all the merits and failures one might have expected from a body of political lawyers, trained in the arts of making things seem right, wary and prepared to wait and see what chances the adversary will give and its incapability of practical foresight as remote from the business of making real things go right as inclosed nuns."

"If the present governments of Great Britain and the United States are the best sort of governments that democracy can produce, then democracy is bound, if not this time then next time or the time after to be completely overcome and superseded by some form of authoritative state organization."

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"Sporting Life" of Philadelphia, the oldest sporting paper in America, which for many years has confined itself entirely to Horse Ball and Trap Shooting, has vastly broadened its scope by including in its repertoire of sports Foot Ball, Golf, Tennis, Hunting, Fishing, Yachting, Motor Boating, Athletics, Basket Ball, Bowling, Automobileing, Billiards and Harness Racing—each in season. These are all clean and legitimate sports, which blend well with baseball and trap shooting. For the purpose of accommodating so many additional sports, the paper has been enlarged from 22 pages to 40 pages, without additional cost to the reader, the price of the paper remaining at five cents the copy. "Sporting Life" thus remains not only the oldest and best, but is also now the largest sporting paper in this country, and well worth the patronage of all lovers of clean sports, by reason of the excellence of its contents, its scrupulous cleanliness in all departments, and its business in all departments, and its more customers than you can.

ALL'S WELL WITH DOCTOR DERNBURG AT HOME WITH HIS FAMILY



Dr. Dernburg and his family.

Dr. Bernhard Dernburg, the unofficial representative of the Kaiser, who was requested to leave the United States because it was believed at Washington that he was trying to inflame German-Americans against this government, is safe at his home in Grunewald with his family. Dr. Dernburg has three daughters and two sons. The latter are almost of military age and are eager to go to the front.

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